



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
UNITED STATES SECTION

For immediate release
June 30, 2006

**NOGALES INTERNATIONAL
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
ON AGENDA FOR JULY 10 PUBLIC MEETING**

An update on the status of the upgrade of the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant (NIWTP) will be discussed at the next public meeting of the Southeast Arizona Citizens' Forum (SACF) of the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC). The meeting will take place Monday, July 10, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, Room 120, 2150 N. Congress Drive in Nogales, Arizona.

Hugh Holub, Special Projects Director and Utilities Director of the City of Nogales, will give an overview of the status of the NIWTP upgrade.

Terry Sprouse of the University of Arizona will provide an overview of research being carried out by the University of Arizona on the Upper Santa Cruz River. Researchers are in the process of collecting and analyzing data. The study is examining four types of benefits associated with maintaining Mexican effluent-dominated stream flows downstream of the NIWTP. The four types of benefits include:

1. The contribution of nature-based tourism to the Santa Cruz County economy;
2. The impact of proximity to the riparian area on property values;
3. The value of stream flows to local agriculture;
4. The benefits associated with maintaining species and ecological processes in the riparian corridor.

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Rancher John Ladd will discuss border fencing issues. The Minutemen have built 2.5 miles of 5-strand barbed wire fence on the Ladd's conservation easement property in Cochise County. The fence is 62 feet north of the border on private property. This short section of fence has already stopped 30 head of cattle from entering the Ladd's property. In the last 2 years the Ladd's have returned 468 head of cattle to their owners in Mexico.

The Minutemen have committed to building 8 additional miles of 5-strand barbed wire fence on the Ladd Ranch. When completed, there will be a sound livestock fence from the east side of the San Pedro Riparian Area to the west side of Naco. In addition, 4 property owners on the east side of Naco have requested the Minutemen's help in building a livestock fence. The Minutemen are also planning a vehicle barrier, to be installed on private property.

In other business, Craig Tinney of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality will provide information about construction of the wastewater collection system in Nogales, Sonora.

The purpose of the forum is to facilitate the exchange of information between the USIBWC and members of the public about Commission activities in Santa Cruz and Cochise Counties, Arizona. The SACF is intended to bring together community members, enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the USIBWC and the public, environmentalists, government agencies, municipalities, and other interested parties. The SACF Board has 12 members representing a variety of interests in Santa Cruz and Cochise Counties.

A complete agenda is attached. Members of the public who would like more information can call 520-281-1832 or e-mail sallyspener@ibwc.state.gov.

For more information:

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SOUTHEAST ARIZONA CITIZENS' FORUM
Monday, July 10, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Room 120
2150 N. Congress Drive
Nogales, AZ

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions - Ben Lomeli, Citizens' Forum Co-Chair
- Update on Status of Upgrade of the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant
– Hugh Holub, Special Projects Director and Utilities Director, City of Nogales.
- Valuing Mexican Effluent, Terry Sprouse, University of Arizona
- Collection System Construction in Nogales, Sonora - Craig Tinney, Arizona
Department of Environmental Quality
- Border fencing issues - John Ladd, Rancher.
- Another speaker to be determined
- Public Comment
- Board Discussion

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time. For more information, call 520-281-1832 or e-mail sallyspener@ibwc.state.gov